

PANCHO AND LEFTY

Townes VanZandt

V1 V2 C V3 I V4 C C2

Verse 1

D

Living on the road my friend

A

Is gonna keep you free and clean

G

Now you wear your skin like iron

D

A

Your breath as hard as kerosene

G

Weren't your mama's only boy

D

G

But her favorite one it seems

Bm

G

D

A

She began to cry when you said goodbye

G

Bm

A

And sank into your dreams

Verse 2

Pancho was a bandit boys his horse was fast as polished steel

He wore his gun outside his pants

For all the honest world to feel

Pancho met his match you know on the deserts down in Mexico

Nobody heard his dying words ah but that's the way it goes

Chorus

G

D

G

All the Federales say they could have had him any day

Bm

G

D

A

G

Bm

A

They only let him slip away out of kindness I suppose

Verse 3

Lefty he can't sing the blues all night long like he used to

The dust that Pancho bit down south ended up in Lefty's mouth

The day they laid poor Pancho low Lefty split for Ohio

Where he got the bread to go there ain't nobody knows

Verse 4

Poets tell how Pancho fell and Lefty's living in a cheap hotel

The desert's quiet and Cleveland's cold,

And so the story ends we're told

Pancho needs your prayers it's true but save a few for Lefty too

He only did what he had to do and now he's growing old

Chorus 2

A few gray Federales say could have had him any day

We only only let him go so long out of of kindness I suppose